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**WATH
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.**

NORTH RIDING OF YORKSHIRE.

Report

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

FOR THE

Year ending 31st December, 1913.

**RIPON :
HILL, PRINTER AND STATIONER, 26, MARKET PLACE.**

1914.



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WATH RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

NORTH RIDING YORKSHIRE.

REPORT
OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH,
1913.

Population—2180. Area in Acres—16997.

Gentlemen,

I beg to present my Report for the year 1913 as Medical Officer of Health.

Annexed hereto are statistical returns of Births, Deaths, and Infectious Diseases, at what ages the deaths have occurred, and if from Zymotic disease the character of such disease.

A summary of these returns show the following facts, namely :—

That 47 Births have been registered (28 males and 19 females) belonging the district, being at the rate of 21·5 per 1000 per annum, as against 22·6 the average for the previous 5 years. Three births were illegitimate. The birth-rate for 1912 in England and Wales was 23·8.

23 Deaths have occurred (9 males and 14 females), being at the rate of 10·5 per 1000 per annum. The average for the previous 5 years was 10·1.

There were 2 deaths of children under one year, being at the rate of 42·5 per 1000 of the births. In England and Wales for 1912 was 95·9 per 1000. 13 Deaths were of persons over 65 years of age, being 56·5 per cent. of the deaths.

No death occurred from a Zymotic Disease.

3 Deaths occurred from Cancer, 4 from Heart Disease, 1 from Bronchitis, 1 from Disease of Respiratory Organs, 2 from Nephritis, 1 from Congenital Malformation, and 1 from Premature Birth, the remainder from other diseases.

During the year I received 3 notifications of Infectious Diseases, namely :—a case of Anthrax at Dishforth, the patient was removed to the Thirsk Cottage Hospital and recovered.

A case of Tubercular Peritonitis occurred at Dishforth, the patient was removed to Leeds Infirmary and died there.

The third was a case of Scarlatina at Melmerby—a child 7 years of age. The mother refused to allow the child to be taken to the Hospital.

Through an outbreak of Measles in Dishforth and neighbourhood, I deemed it advisable to close the Village School from 22nd of May to 9th of June.

I visited the houses and premises where Infectious Diseases occurred, and gave instructions to prevent the spread of the disease.

The average number of persons per house according to last Census was 4·25.

UNDER THE PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS.

497 Inspections have been made. 8 Statutory Notices have been served, all of which were complied with, in addition there were many minor nuisances remedied without having recourse to serving official notices.

3 blocked drains at Rainton, and one at Melmerby, have been remedied.

5 samples of water were sent for analysis.

A case of overcrowding occurred at Cundall, which has been attended to.

The gutters at Melmerby, Azenby, Dishforth, and Cundall, have been cleaned out.

The settling tanks at Wath, Azenby, and Dishforth, have been cleansed.

UNDER THE HOUSING ACTS.

69 Inspections have been made, namely: 15 at Hutton Conyers, where everything was found satisfactory.

6 at Cundall, one of which was unfit for habitation. This house was therefore closed by the Landlord.

14 at Wath, where 5 cottages have been enlarged. One house has a defective roof, notice has therefore been served on the Owner to repair same.

32 at Melmerby. 10 Cottages belonging to the late Mr. Wilkinson's Executors are defective in both light and ventilation. Through the death of the late Owner the improvements required have had to be deferred until the will has been proved.

In 5 other cases, the privies, ashpits, and drainage was defective. Notice has been served on the Owner to remedy same.

1 at Dishforth was found in good order.

1 at Marton-le-Moor, the floors and eavespouting have been repaired.

I have been round the District several times. The condition of the majority of the cottages is fairly good, but in many of the Villages there are houses that do not satisfy modern requirements as regards healthy accommodation.

This matter has been brought under the notice of the District Council, but one of the great difficulties in a rural area is the lack of good houses that can be utilized during the necessary alterations, consequently the work has to be proceeded with much slower than in a Town.

I have not received any complaints as to the quality of milk, meat, or food supplied in the District.

No case of lead poisoning has been brought to my notice.

I have received no complaint of any scarcity of water in the District.

The following Villages have Waterworks where the supply has been constant, namely :—Hutton Conyers, Melmerby, Marton-le-Moor, and Rainton.

There are no cases of the pollution of Rivers, the amount of pollution of streams is very slight.

The following Villages have Sewerage and Sewage disposal works, namely :—Wath and Dishforth.

All the other Villages are drained into tanks.

All the Schools and premises have been inspected and found satisfactory.

The occupiers remove their own refuse and also clean out their closets, privies, ashpits and cesspools.

There are 3 Slaughterhouses in the District, which have been kept in good order.

There are no Factories, Workplaces or Homework premises in the Area.

I have sent copies of this Report to the Local Government Board, the North Riding County Council, and the Home Office.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

T. COLLIER,

To the Wath Rural District
Council.

Medical Officer of Health.

